

News Release

CALIFORNIA MAN INDICTED FOR DEALING IN STOLEN COMPUTER EQUIPMENT AND MONEY LAUNDERING

Defendant, a partner in Santa Ana-based computer brokerage firm, used San Jose intermediary to store stolen property and launder proceeds

SAN JOSE, Calif. — A partner in a Southern California computer brokerage firm was indicted late yesterday by a federal grand jury in San Jose on an array of federal violations related to the sale of stolen computer equipment.

The 26-count indictment charges Gilbert Goncalves, 51, a partner in Santa Ana-based G&G Assemblers/Crystal Technologies ("G&G"), with conspiracy to possess goods from stolen interstate shipments, possession of stolen interstate shipments, interstate transportation of stolen property, money laundering, and transactions involving proceeds of more than \$10,000 derived from his crimes.

The prosecution is the result of an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigations Division, the REACT Task Force in San Jose, and the Computer Hacking and Intellectual Property (CHIP) Unit of the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of California.

According to the indictment, the Cerritos man and his company, G&G, were in the business of buying, selling, and manufacturing computer memory and networking equipment. Goncalves allegedly acquired stolen computer equipment, including Cisco components, TV/VCR units, and DVD drives, using an intermediary in San Jose in an attempt to conceal his dealings. Goncalves allegedly fabricated false bills of lading and packing slips and made cash payments to conceal the nature of the stolen property. From June 2000 to March 2001, Goncalves is suspected of making 21 separate deposits totaling more than \$961,000 into G&G's checking account, which represented the proceeds of the sales of stolen Cisco equipment.

Mr. Goncalves is scheduled to make his initial appearance in federal court July 14 in San Jose.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.

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